

Issue IV
May 2019



The newsletter of the
Yale Glee Club
Associates



Graduation Recap

The Yale Glee Club’s final months on campus this semester were marked by music, celebration and some goodbyes. As the humid summer air has descended upon New Haven, inviting the Elm City’s notable greenery to return after an egregiously long period of cold weather, the 158th incarnation of the chorus has scattered to various areas of the world for the season — but not before spending some time in song with one another.

On April 24, the Glee Club hosted high school choruses in Woolsey Hall for the New Haven High School Chorus Festival. The participating choruses engaged in rehearsals with clinician Brandon Waddles — a renowned conductor, collaborative pianist and voice coach. The festival culminated in an evening concert in which each ensemble performed both separately and together. The final piece, in which the Glee Club joined the high school choristers on stage, was composed by Waddles himself.

Following a finals period marked by an uncanny amount of rain, members of the Glee Club moved onto Old Campus for “dead week” — the week before Commencement in which campus has been deemed deceased. The Glee Club engaged in many dead week traditions, including established ones like the Glee Club Commencement Musical and newer additions like Glee Club Trivia Night.

Dead Week concluded with the Glee Club’s Commencement Concert, in which the chorus performed a selection of this season’s tour repertoire and bid goodbyes to members of the Class of 2019. With the conclusion of the concert came the conclusion of a season and a semester. We look forward to joining one another once again in the fall for the 159th season!

Rianna Turner ‘21

New Additions to the Yale Glee Club Associates Board of Directors



Roy Byrd '67

Roy Byrd retired from IBM Research in 2008 after a 40-year career as a researcher in computer science and computational linguistics. He received his Bachelor of Arts in music theory and composition from Yale in 1967. After a year of teaching music at the American Community School in Beirut, Lebanon, Roy joined IBM as a software engineer. While at IBM, he completed course requirements for a Ph.D. in Theoretical Linguistics at New York University. Roy is currently a Research Staff Member Emeritus at IBM Research, an Adjunct Professor of Linguistics at Montclair State University, and a Visiting Scholar in the Linguistics Department at New York University. He is a returning member of the board of the Yale Glee Club Associates and has served on the board of the Yale Alumni Chorus in addition to being an active YAC participant.

Joanne Wible Kant '73

Joanne arrived in New Haven in the fall of 1969 as a member of the first class of women at Yale and part of the first SATB Yale Glee Club. She sang with the Battell Chapel Choir and The New Blue, the first all-female singing group at Yale, and has sung with the Yale Alumni Chorus on several overseas trips as well as the International Choral Festival. Her daughter, Lisa Kant '06 also sang in the Glee Club and served on the YGCA board. After Yale, Joanne founded the Easton Arts Council, a non-profit organization to further the arts, and has sung with several organizations in Fairfield County, as a church soloist and in a trio she founded, The Hot To Trot Trio which performs locally for libraries, senior centers and theatre venues. In her "non-singing" life, she practices gynecology in Bridgeport, CT.

Candice Andalia '08

An alto in the Yale Glee Club, Candice earned two Bachelor of Arts degrees at Yale — one in history and one in political philosophy — as well as a J.D. from Cornell. She is currently a trial attorney based in New York City, where she also maintains an active pro bono practice handling civil and criminal appeals, with a special focus on cases in the service of Spanish-language speakers. She says that singing has always been a big part of her life, and the Glee Club has given her great joy!

Save The Date: April 4, 2020

The Yale Glee Club will hold will hold a gala celebrating 50 years of coeducation!

There will be all kinds of daytime special events including a panel discussion on Gender and Choral Singing in the 21st Century, a screening of the documentary film currently being made about the Glee Club's transformation from TTBB to SATB, and the chance to workshop a new Yale song commissioned especially for this occasion, by Arianne Abela. Then we will all gather for a festive Singing Dinner. Plan your trip to New Haven, and don't miss this unique, celebratory, musical weekend! Alums of the early coeducation years, see what you can find in your attics for our memorabilia displays, and let us know.

Yours in song,
Sarah Heath (President, YGCA)



The Yale Glee Club singing our traditional closing song, Bright College Years at the 2019 Commencement Concert.



The Yale Glee Club Class of 2019

On May 20, Yale University honored the graduates of the Class of 2019 with a sun-soaked commencement ceremony on Old Campus. A few nights earlier, on the evening of May 18, the Yale Glee Club honored its own contingent of graduates during a Commencement Concert in Sprague Hall. The night, filled with gifts and song, was a successful send-off to the graduates the ensemble holds so dear. Below is a list of the Yale Glee Club's Class of 2019.

Best wishes, graduates, and thank you for your voices!

Here are profiles of some of our graduating seniors:



Margaret Grabar Sage (MIGS)

Class : 2019

Major: Literature

Interests: cooking, eating slowly, watching David Blaine semi-ironically, poetry, writing about my life, fun clothes, the show Mike Tyson Mysteries, sour patch watermelon, wedding crashing, parties where adults spontaneously perform.



Magda Andrews-Hoke

Class : 2019

Major: Linguistics and English

Interests: YULS (Yale Undergraduate Linguistics Society), poetry, Emily Dickinson, low-key watercolor painting, talking about languages, consonants, playing guitar mediocrely.



Kristine Chung

Class : 2019

Major: Architecture

Interests: theater scenic design, piano, UP house manager and other theater related stuff, eating ramen, buying books and not reading them, going to Ikea.



Isabella Pazaryna

Class : 2019

Major: History

Interests: OTYC, YBOP, Elizabethan Society, I love British history and Rachel Maddow, I love food and the politics of former Soviet Republics, #freenavalny, ask me about Wagner.



Stephanie Smelyansky

Class : 2019

Major: Chemistry & MB&B

Interests: running, weight lifting, reading (currently reading The Glass Universe), hiking/camping, cooking, eating, embroidering, podcasts, tea and coffee, 90s rom coms, cozy sweaters and mom jeans.



Abigail Cipparone

Class : 2019

Major: Ethnicity, Race and Migration

Interests: practicing french horn, (the act of) reading at night, earl grey and black tea and whole milk lattes, biographical drama films, jogging, Today Explained, The Orbiting Human Circus, flannels, and sweets.



Helen Rouner

Class : 2019

Major: English

Interests: Yale Daily News, Something Extra, trekking, psychoanalysis, moomintrolls, my cats Odin and Freyja, closet organization.



Evaline Xie

Class : 2019

Major: Statistics & Data Science

Interests: Urban Debate League, gallery guides at the YUAG, Hearthstone, anime, writing poetry, watching/learning figure skating, cooking.



Nolan Crawford

Class : 2019

Major: Political Science

Interests: tennis, golf, opera, my parents' music taste, good food of any kind, travel (especially to places with good food), my city, summer twilights, John Steinbeck, critically-acclaimed movies/TV, Axios AM.



Joe Landman

Class : 2019

Major: American Studies MA

Interests: squash, tennis, and skiing; cherry tomatoes, apple picking, and wholesome fall activities, cooking, tea and chatting till the early hours of the morning, Abba.



Johanan Knight

Class : 2019

Major: Environmental Engineering

Interests: arguing why apple music is better than spotify, running (long distances usually), NY Yankees (baseball in general), renewable energy and skiing/snowboarding, Curb Your Enthusiasm.



Jared Michaud

Class : 2019

Major: Theater Studies

Interests: cats, food, not catfood, [bad] jokes, musical theater, operas, plays, friendship, Crazy Ex-Girlfriend, farming, hiking, cross country skiing, running, I really like a lot so I'll stop, woads.



Andrew Hon

Class : 2019

Major: Choral Conducting (M.M.A.)

Interests: conducting, Renaissance music, travelling, fancy socks and floral ties, sushi (let's go to Sushi Palace!), pumpkin pies, spicy food, grocery shopping, hiking, swimming etc.

2019 Yale Glee Club Medal Recipient



From the 2019 Singing Dinner:

“**O**ne of the great privileges of serving as Director of the Yale Glee Club is the opportunity to work with so many dedicated alumni from across the generations. They are an important reminder that while the experience of being in the Glee Club may begin when you are a student, it does not end when you graduate, and that singing is a perennial source of joy, solace, and friendship.

So it gives me great pleasure tonight to share with you all just a few of the many reasons why we are awarding this year’s Yale Glee Club medal to Jim Kingsbury ’56.

We are grateful to Jim’s daughters for joining us tonight. Welcome, Anne and Heather! Thank you for being here to help us celebrate.

Jim’s roots in the Glee Club and in Yale singing run deep. He was the Manager of the Glee Club during his senior year in 1956. Today the portrait of the 1956 Glee Club is situated between my office door and Barty’s portrait, so I often catch a glimpse of Jim when I arrive in the morning; he and his friend, Jim Downey, the President that year, are seated on either side of still newly minted Director Fenno Heath. As a student, Jim also sang with the Whiffenpoofs, where his Whiff nickname was “Yours for the askingsbury”.

Over the years, Jim has generously shared the organizational expertise he honed during many years in banking and finance as a member of both the Yale Alumni Chorus and Yale Glee Club Associates boards, most recently serving on the

YGCA Executive Committee as our treasurer. I know I speak for Sean as well when I say how much we have appreciated his advice and guidance over the years.

But as much as we appreciate the many hours Jim has given to our organization as a volunteer, it is his contribution as an enthusiastic chorus member that I think of first and that I value the most. He has been a pillar of the bass section on countless YAC tours, where he was often accompanied by his beloved wife Peggy, whose memory we honor and cherish tonight.

When I think of Jim I think of someone who loves a good laugh, whose optimistic spirit spreads to everyone around him, and who asks, “How are you doing?” not because it’s expected but because he actually gives a damn.

It’s been a welcome gift to have Jim back in the New Haven area in recent years, and to see him at so many local singing events. Just a couple of weeks ago, in fact, we organized a masterclass in the Glee Club room with a visiting choir from Sweden, the Uppsala University Academy Choir. As I walked in, I saw there were a few music students who’d come to watch, and some local choir directors, and Jim. When I walked up to say hi and to thank him for coming, his response, characteristically, was “Well, I’m just trying to learn something!”

Thank you, Jim, for everything!”

Jeffrey Douma



Jim Kingsbury '56, with daughters Anne Kingsbury Andrews and Heather Kinsbury Hill.